

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 08843 241037Z

43

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 SP-03 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DRC-01 /059 W

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R 240953Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5487

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 8843

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR

SUBJECT: SCENARIO FOR CHINA VISIT

1. RAFAEL GONZALEZ, PHILIPPINE CONGEN IN HONG KONG, CALLED ON POLITICAL COUNSELOR JULY 23 TO SOLICIT INFORMATION ON ITINERARY FOLLOWED BY PRESIDENT AND MRS. NIXON IN CHINA FEBRUARY 1972. HE WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN MRS. NIXON'S ACTIVITIES. ACCORDING TO GONZALEZ, HE WANTED INFORMATION PREPARATORY TO DFA MEETING JULY 26 SO HE WOULD BE IN POSITION TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS FOR POSSIBLE MARCOS VISIT. EMBASSY PROVIDED HIM COPY OF WHITE HOUSE BULLETIN OUTLINING NIXON SCHEDULE.

2. GONZALEZ IS MRS. MARCOS' PROTEGE AND HAS FREQUENTLY SERVED AS HER ADVANCE MAN FOR HER TRIPS ABROAD. IN DISCUSSING POSSIBILITY OF TRIP, HOWEVER, HE SAID DFA WAS ONLY BRAINSTORMING AND THAT CONTRARY TO EARLIER RUMORS NEITHER MARCOS WAS PLANNING TRIP TO CHINA ANYTIME SOON. PHILIPPINES WOULD FIRST HAVE TO "GET ITS HOUSE IN ORDER."

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH PHILIPPINES MIGHT WELL CHOOSE TO ADVANCE ITS INTERESTS WITH CHINA PRIOR TO RECOGNITION BY SENDING MRS. MARCOS ON TRIP, WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT THINK SUCH TACTIC LIKELY AT THIS POINT. IT SEEMS MORE PROBABLE
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PAGE 02 MANILA 08843 241037Z

THAT MRS. MARCOS IS DOING HER OWN CONTINGENCY PLANNING IN

PREPARATION FOR MOMENT WHEN HER AMBITIONS COINCIDE WITH
GOVERNMENT POLICY. GOVERNMENT APPROACH TO CHINESE RECOGNITION
HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED IN MOST RECENT MONTHS BY
GREAT CAUTION.
SULLIVAN

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NNN

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